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MEMORANDUM FOR PRS (In-House Publication)

FROM: PROI (STINFO)

10 April 2001

SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: **AFRL-PR-ED-VG-2001-078**  
Fajardo, Mario, "Chemistry and Spectroscopy in Solid Parahydrogen"

**U. Wyoming Chemistry Dept. Seminar**  
**(Caramie, WY, 20 April 2001) (Deadline: 20 April 2001)**

**(Statement A)**

1. This request has been reviewed by the Foreign Disclosure Office for: a.) appropriateness of distribution statement, b.) military/national critical technology, c.) export controls or distribution restrictions, d.) appropriateness for release to a foreign nation, and e.) technical sensitivity and/or economic sensitivity.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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APPROVED/APPROVED AS AMENDED/DISAPPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHILIP A. KESSEL Date  
Technical Advisor  
Space & Missile Propulsion Division

# Chemistry and Spectroscopy in Solid Parahydrogen

Mario E. Fajardo

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- \* Cryosolid Propellants Team
- \* HEDM Cryosolid Propellants Concept (Atoms in Solid Hydrogen)
- \* Rapid Vapor Deposition of Transparent Parahydrogen (pH<sub>2</sub>) Solids
- \* B and Al Doped pH<sub>2</sub> Solids
- \* High Res. IR Spectroscopy of Molecular Dopants in Solid pH<sub>2</sub>
- \* Summary

# Cryosolid Propellants Team

Mario E. Fajardo, Michelle E. DeRose, and Simon Tam

- \* Mario E. Fajardo, Michelle E. DeRose, and Simon Tam  
Bill Larson (thermal B atom source)
- \* Jeff Sheehy, Jerry Boatz, Peter Langhoff (in-house theory)
- \* AFOSR Contractors:
  - P. Dagdigan @ Johns Hopkins: Al/H<sub>2</sub> & B/H<sub>2</sub> Complexes
  - M. Alexander @ U. Maryland: B/H<sub>2</sub> Interaction Potentials
  - G. Voth @ U. Utah: Path-Integral Monte Carlo Simulations
  - G. Scoles & K. Lehmann @ Princeton U.: Helium Clusters
- \* External Collaborators:
  - T. Momose @ Kyoto U.: High Resolution IR Spectroscopy
- \* Summer Visiting Professors:
  - R.J. Hinde @ U. Tennessee: Dopant-Induced IR Activity
  - D. Anderson @ U. Wyoming: Dopant IR Absorptions

# Propellant Performance Figures of Merit

Specific Impulse,  $I_{sp}$ :

$I_{sp} \equiv$  (total impulse / propellant weight)

$= g_0 \langle v_{exh} \rangle$  “seconds”

$$\propto \sqrt{\frac{\langle \text{K.E.} \rangle}{m}} \propto \sqrt{\frac{\Delta H}{m}} = \sqrt{\Delta H_{sp}}$$

Density,  $\rho$ :

higher density  $\Rightarrow$  smaller & lighter tanks

$\Rightarrow$  less aerodynamic drag

$\Rightarrow$  condensed phase propellants

[G.P. Sutton, “Rocket Propulsion Elements” (Wiley, New York, 1992).]

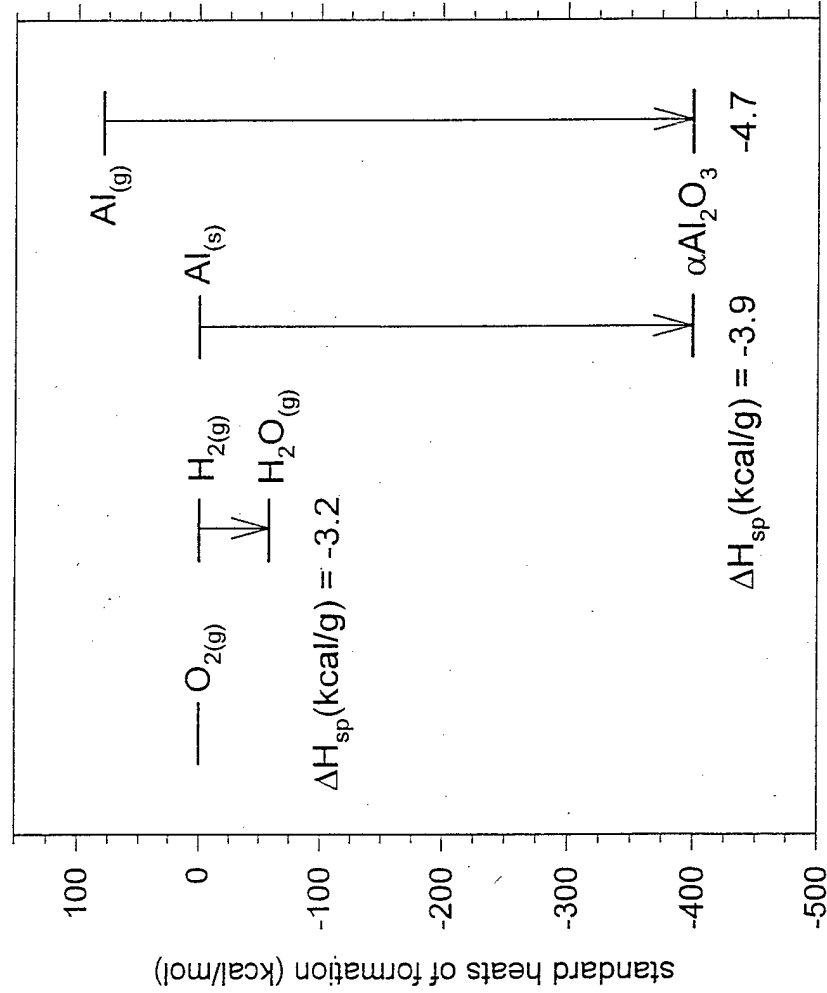
# “Revolutionary” vs. “Evolutionary”

## HEDM Concepts

- \* “Revolutionary” means better than LOX/LH<sub>2</sub>:  
LOX/LH<sub>2</sub>      $\Delta H_{\text{sp}} = 12.6 \text{ MJ/kg}$  (3.0 kcal/g)  
HEDM Target:      $\Delta H_{\text{sp}} > 15.0 \text{ MJ/kg}$  (3.6 kcal/g)
  
- \* Early (c1990) Revolutionary HEDM Concepts:
  - tetrahydrogen (H<sub>4</sub>)
  - metastable triplet helium (He\* and He<sub>2</sub>\*)
  - spin-polarized atomic hydrogen (H↑)
  - high-spin species (<sup>5</sup>CO)
  - dications (AB<sup>++</sup>, ABC<sup>++</sup>)
  - ♥ “non-metallics” (e.g. O<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>8</sub>, N<sub>20</sub>)     N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>!
  - metallic hydrogen
  - ♥ metal atoms and clusters in solid H<sub>2</sub>

# Cryosolid Propellants Concept

Use cryogenic solid hydrogen as a “packaging material” to store energetic species such as metal atoms and clusters.



# Atom Additive Payoffs (5 % molar)

Sea level specific impulse,  $I_{sp}$ , in seconds (% change)

$P_{\text{chamber}} = 1000 \text{ PSIA}$ ,  $P_{\text{exhaust}} = 14.7 \text{ PSIA}$

Additive	in standard state <u><math>M(5\%)/LOX/H_2</math></u>	as atoms <u><math>M(5\%)/LOX/H_2</math></u>	monoprop. <u><math>M(5\%)/H_2</math></u>
none	403		
C	381 (-5%)	515 (+28%)	515 (+28%)
B	407 (+1%)	508 (+26%)	465 (+15%)
Be	427 (+6%)	493 (+22%)	
Si	400 (-1%)	460 (+14%)	
Al	407 (+1%)	454 (+13%)	
H	403	430 (+7%)	380 (-6%)
Li	404	428 (+6%)	
Mg	400 (-1%)	416 (+3%)	



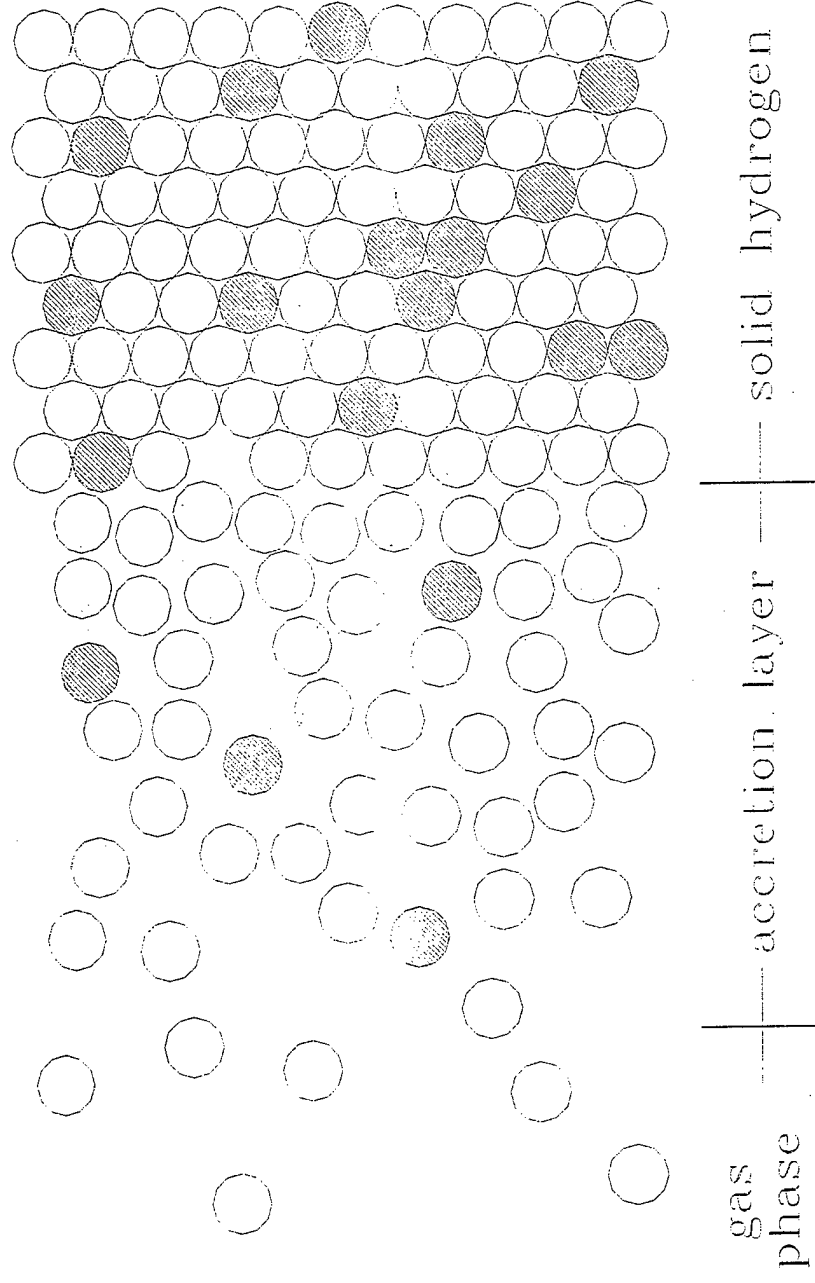
# Cryosolid Propellants Objectives

- \* Make solid hydrogen samples (any size) containing 5% molar concentration of trapped energetic additives.
- \* Measure absolute concentrations of energetic species.
- \* Scale-up samples; produce  $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^3$  samples in our lab.

Example:  $5\% \text{ Al/pH}_2$ ,  $V = 1 \text{ cm}^3$   
assume each Al atom replaces one  $\text{H}_2$  molecule  
 $\Rightarrow 58 \text{ mg Al} / 83 \text{ mg } ^1\text{H}_2$  (\*see display item\*)  
 $\therefore \rho = 0.142 \text{ g/cm}^3 (+100\%)$

# Cryosolid Propellants Approach

- \* Rapid vapor deposition of metal atom vapor and pre-cooled parahydrogen gas onto a liquid helium cooled substrate in vacuum.

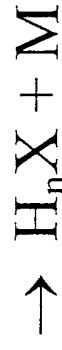


# Dopant Reactions within solid $\text{pH}_2$

\* ideally:



\* in practice:



# The Perils of Calorimetry

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GEORGE C. PIMENTEL

TABLE IX  
CONCENTRATIONS OF FREE RADICALS REPORTED

Radical	Matrix	Mole per cent radicals	Method of production and estimate <sup>a</sup>	Reference
O	O <sub>2</sub>	4-20	Gas, cal	Minkoff <i>et al.</i> (1959).
		<3	Gas, IR	Harvey and Bass (1958)
		~1	Gas, cal	Broida and Lutes (1956)
OH	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.6	γ, ESR	R. Livingston <sup>b</sup>
N	N <sub>2</sub>	4	Gas, cal	Minkoff <i>et al.</i> (1959)
		0.2	Gas, cal	Broida and Lutes (1956)
		0.03	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959b)
		>0.03	Gas, cal	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1958)
		0.01-0.04	Gas, MS	Fontana <sup>c</sup>
OH(?)	HCOOH	0.2	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	0.14	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)
H	CH <sub>4</sub>	0.1	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)
N	NH <sub>3</sub>	0.1	Gas, ESR	Cole and Harding (1958)
H	HClO <sub>4</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> O	0.1	γ, ESR	Livingston <i>et al.</i> (1955)
H	H <sub>2</sub> O	0.01	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
H, NH <sub>2</sub> (?)	NH <sub>3</sub>	0.01	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
ROH	Alcohols	~0.01	UV, ESR	D. Ingram <sup>b</sup>
H	H <sub>2</sub>	0.0006	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)

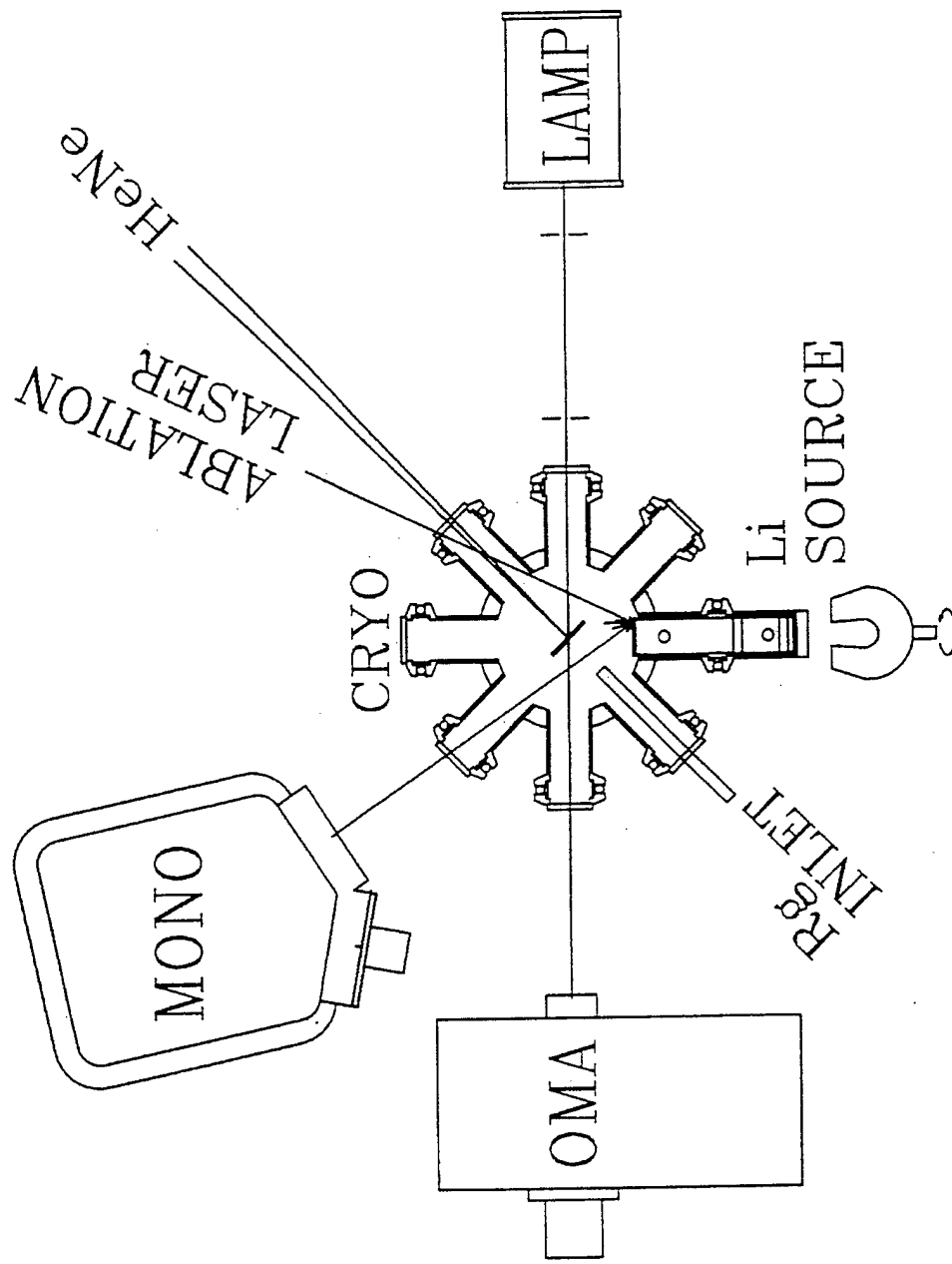
<sup>a</sup> Abbreviations: gas = rapid condensation of gaseous radicals; γ = gamma ray *in situ* production; UV = photolytic *in situ* production; IR = infrared analysis; cal = calorimetry; MS = magnetic susceptibility.

<sup>b</sup> Private communication.

<sup>c</sup> Fontana, B. J. (1959). *J. Chem. Phys.* **31**, 148.

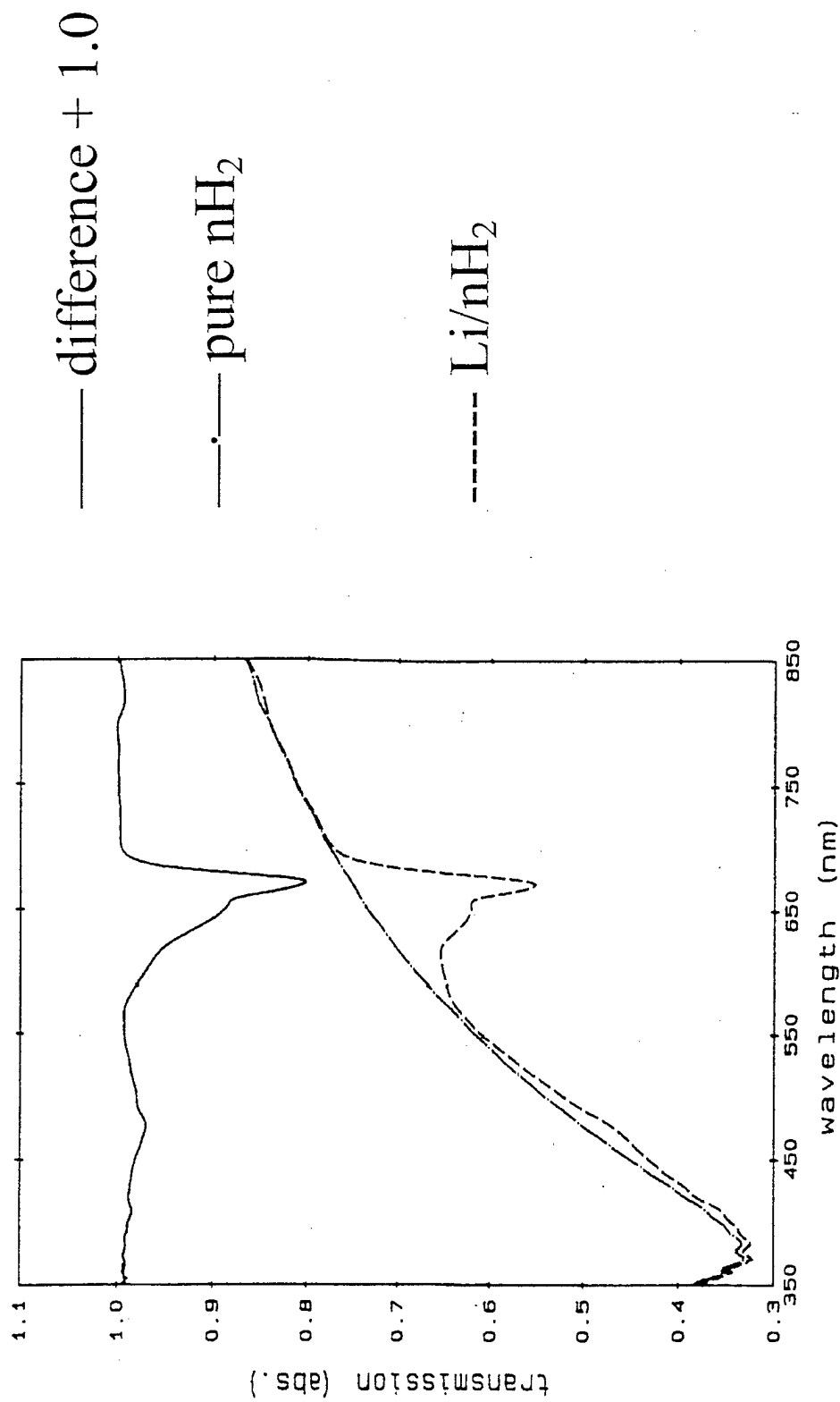
[A.M. Bass and H.P. Broida, "Formation and Trapping of Free Radicals" (Academic, New York, 1960).]

# Experimental Diagram (c1993)



M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **98**, 110 (1993).

# Transmission Spectrum of Li/nH<sub>2</sub>, d ≈ 10 μ



M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **98**, 110 (1993).

# Optical Scattering in Solid Hydrogen

## Crystal Growing and Quality (p. 81)

“There is a considerable art to growing hydrogen crystals of high quality. Good crystals are always grown slowly from the melt; a rapid freeze from the gas produces snow.”

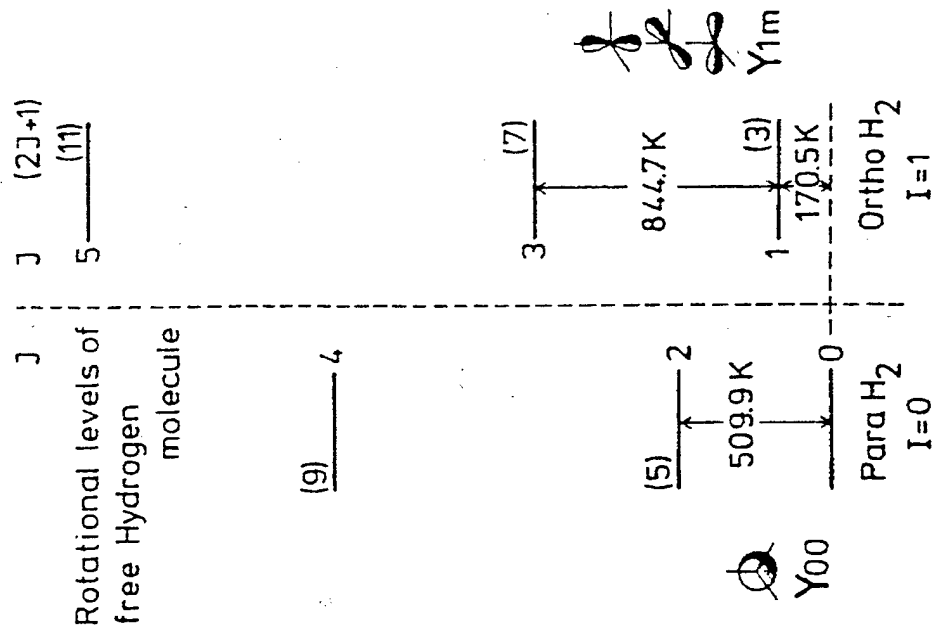
## Crystallite Light Scattering (p. 83)

“The reason that a good hydrogen crystal is so hard to see is its low refractive index...an estimated 1.16!

Yet a 1 mm-thick layer of hydrogen crystallites can be a completely opaque brown-black.”

[P.C. Souers, Hydrogen Properties for Fusion Energy (UC Press, Berkeley, 1986)]

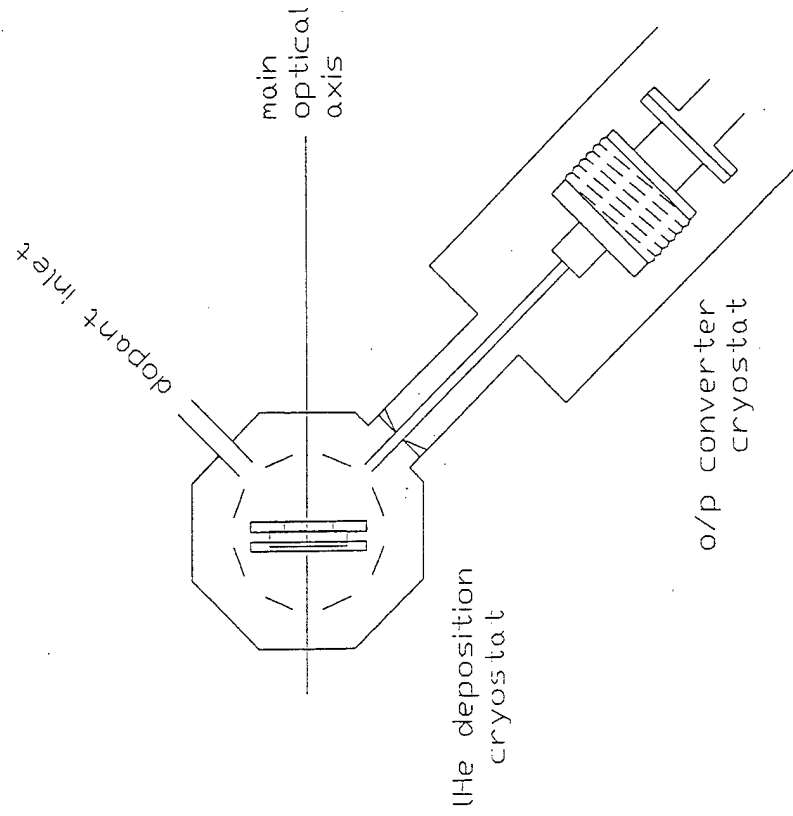
# ortho- and para-hydrogen



[L.F. Silveira, Rev. Mod. Phys. 52, 393 (1980)]

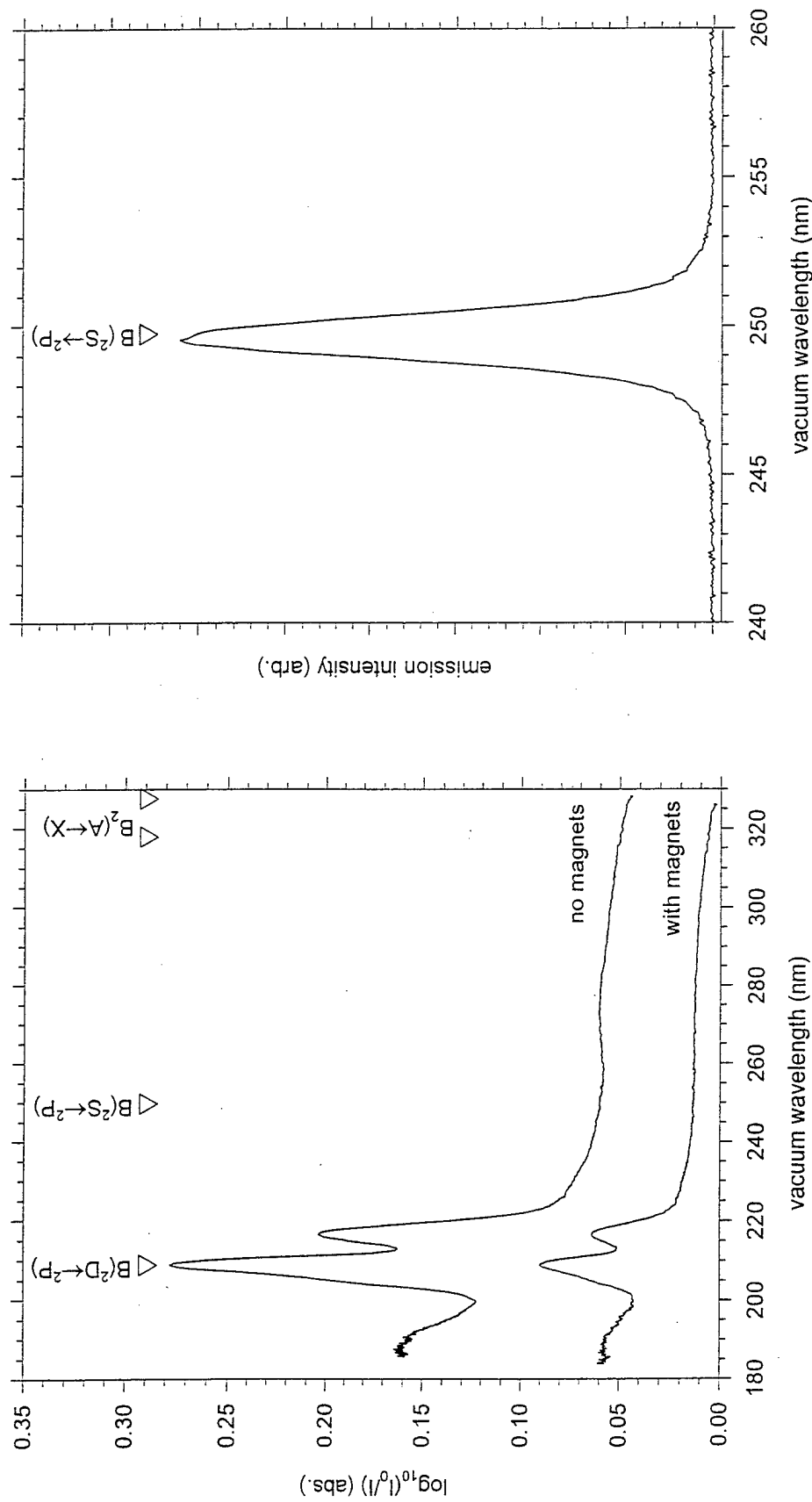


# Rapid Vapor Deposition of Gram-Scale Optically Transparent $\text{pH}_2$ Solids (c1997)



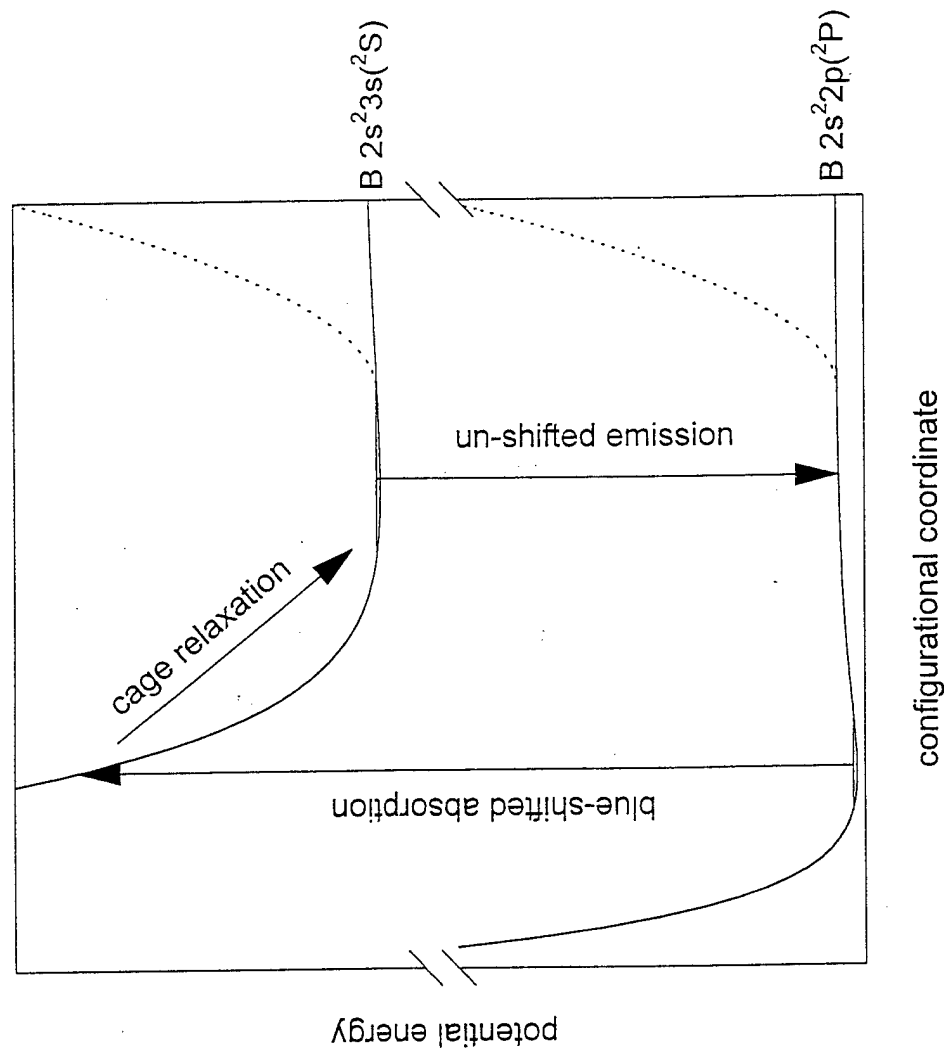
M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam, *J. Chem. Phys.* **108**, 4237 (1998).  
S. Tam and M.E. Fajardo, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **70**, 1926 (1999).

# Electronic Spectroscopy of B/pH<sub>2</sub> ( $d \approx 2$ nm)



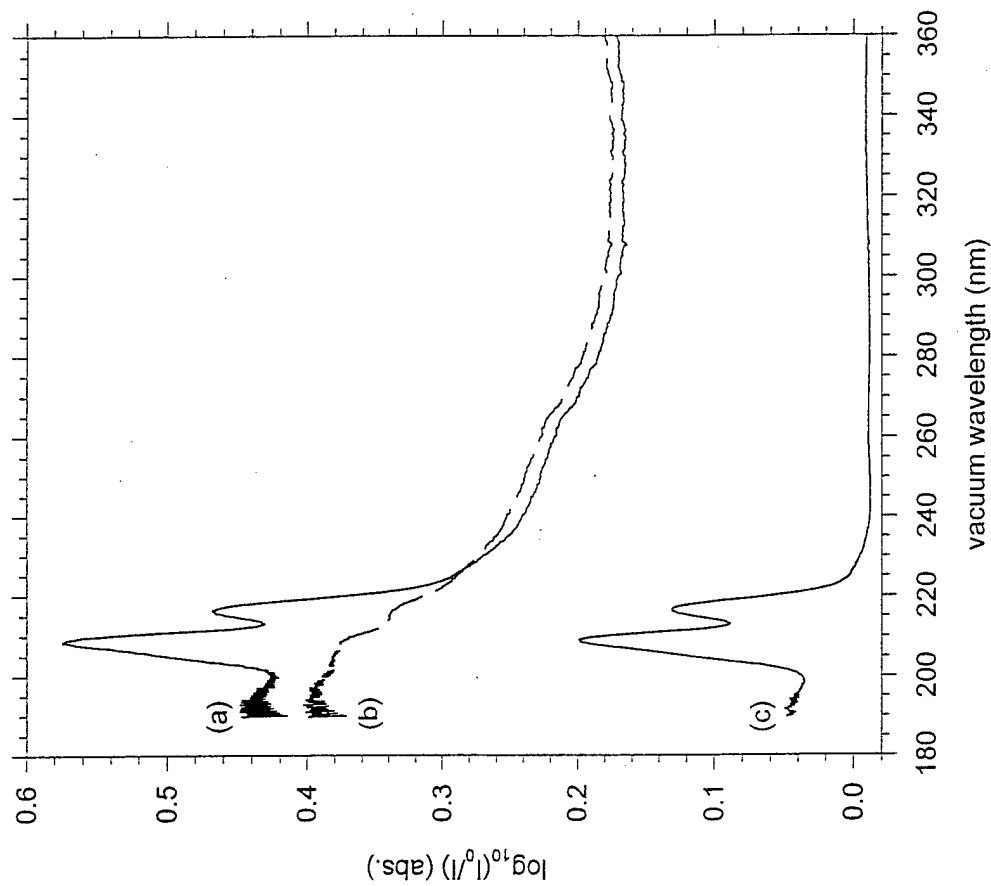
S. Tam, M. MacIer, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9067 (2000).  
[J.R. Krumrine, S. Jang, G.A. Voth, and M.H. Alexander, J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9079 (2000)]

# Photodynamics Cartoon for B/pH<sub>2</sub>



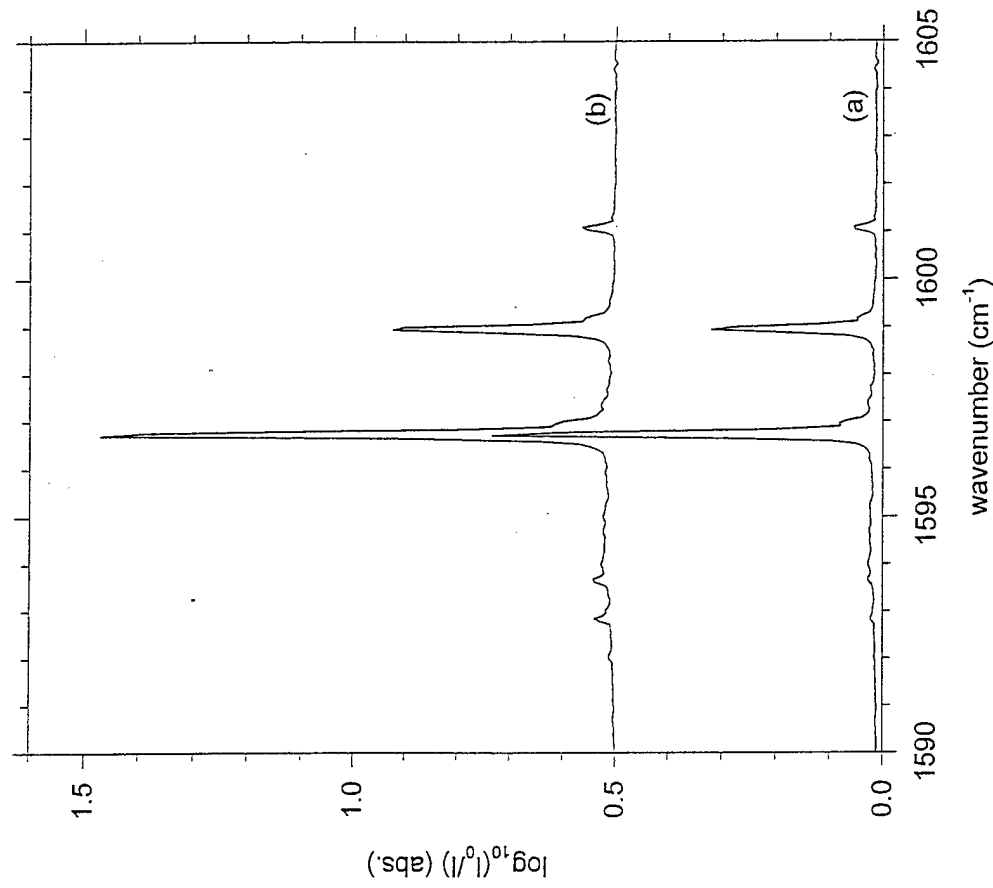
S. Tam, M. MacIer, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9067 (2000).

# Photobleaching of B/pH<sub>2</sub> Absorptions



S. Tam, M. MacIer, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9067 (2000).

# IR Absorption Spectra of $B_2H_6/pH_2$



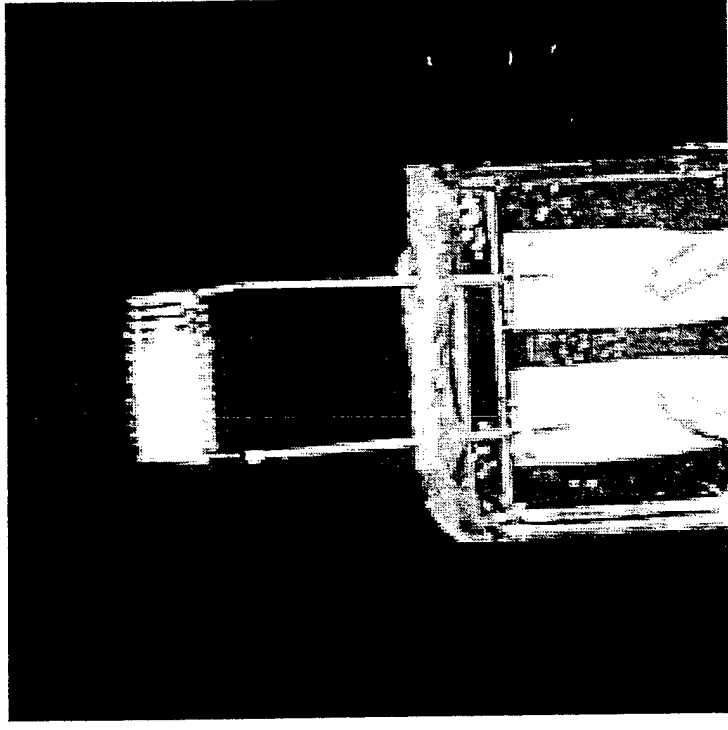
S. Tam, M. MacIer, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9067 (2000).

# Requirement for High Flux HEDM Sources

\* A 5 % doping level, and a sample growth rate of 1 mm/hour, require a flux of  $\Phi_{\text{HEDM}} \approx 3 \times 10^{16} \text{ \#/cm}^2\text{-s}$  at the deposition substrate. For Al atoms, this translates to a mass flux of  $5.8 \text{ mg/cm}^2\text{-hour}$ , delivered to the deposition substrate.

\* Began FY00 using miniature tungsten filament evaporation sources based on our FY99 effort to produce thermal B atoms.

\* Total mass loadings of Al metal were  $\sim 10 \text{ mg}$ , just enough to detect trapped Al atoms in Ar;  $\Phi_{\text{Al}} \sim 10^{11} \text{ \#/cm}^2\text{-s @ } R = 5 \text{ cm}$ .



# High Flux HEDM Sources

- \* Purchased commercial Al evaporator; PBN crucible holds  $\approx 10$  g Al in horizontal orientation.
- \*  $T_{\max} = 1200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \Rightarrow P_{\text{vap}}(\text{Al}) \approx 8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ torr} \Rightarrow \Phi_{\text{Al}} \approx 10^{18} \text{ \#/cm}^2\text{-s}$

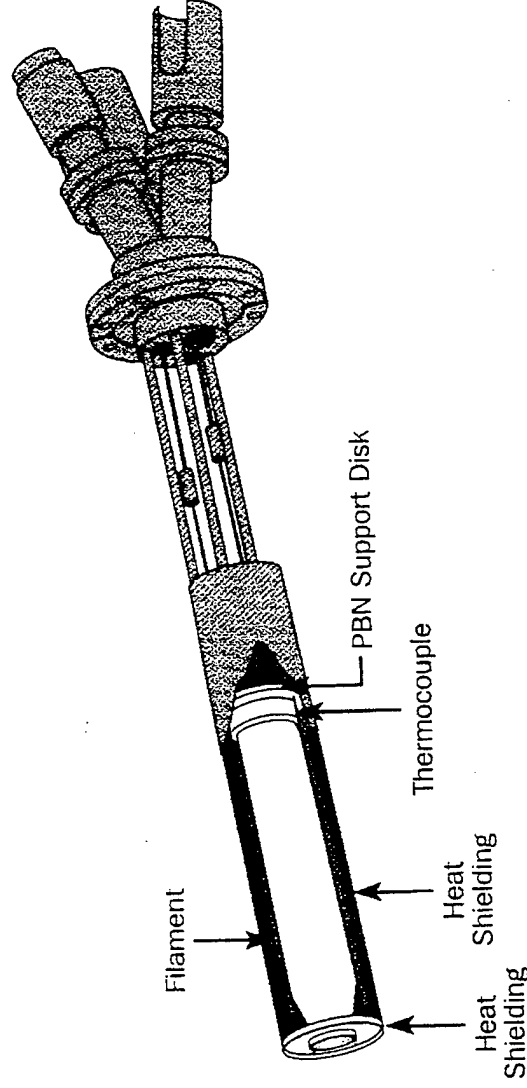
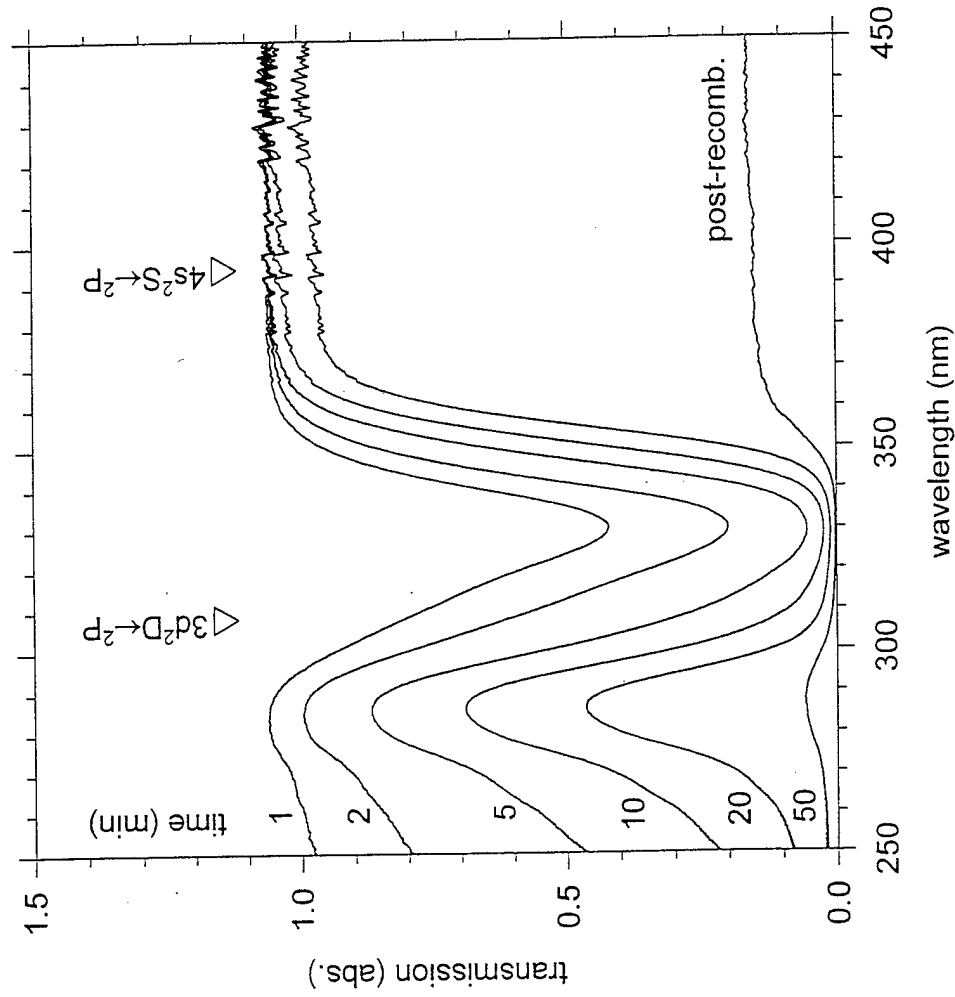


Figure 1-3: Schematic of the EPI SUMO™ Effusion Cell.

# UV Spectroscopy Al/pH<sub>2</sub>

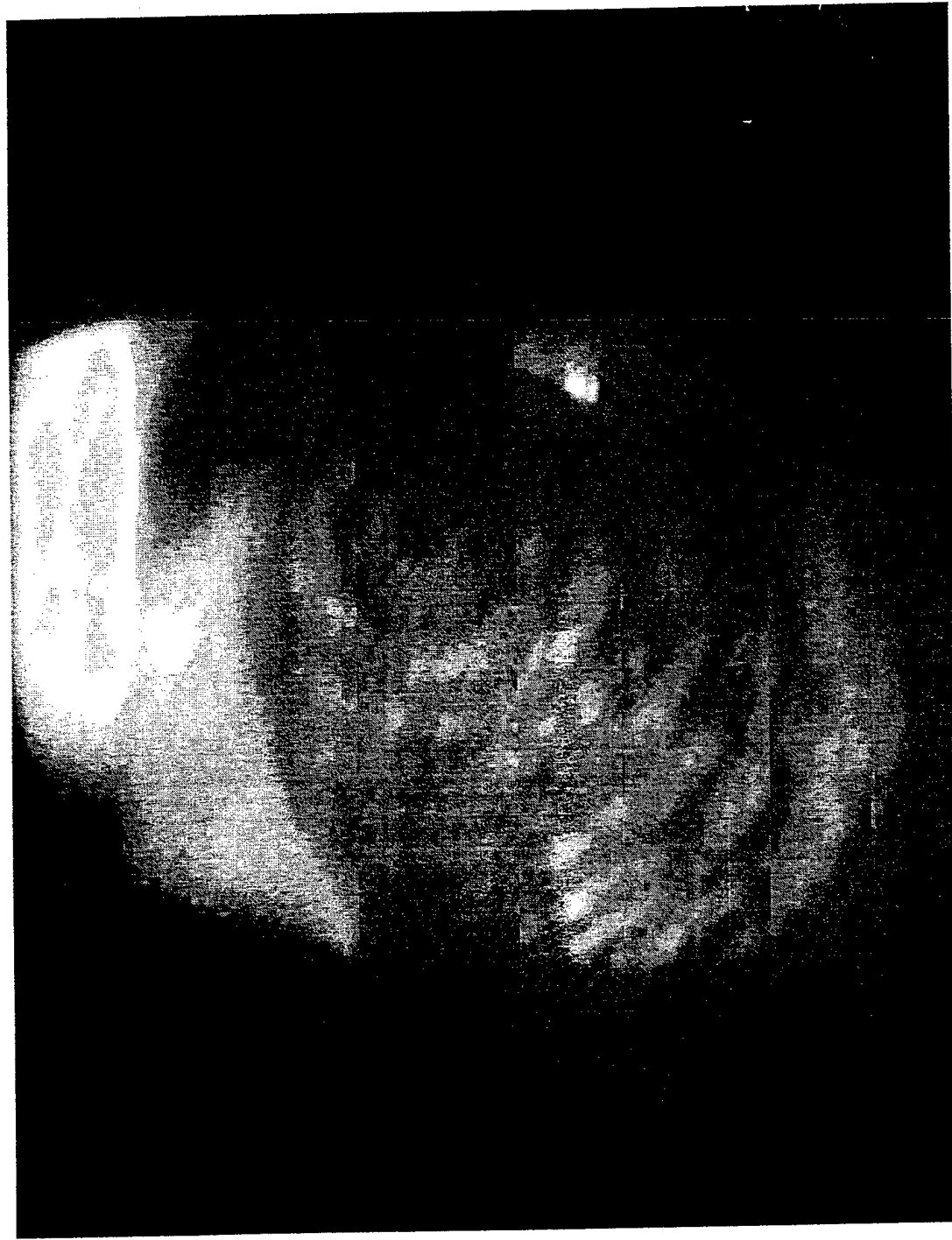
- \* Al atom UV absorption saturates at high column densities.



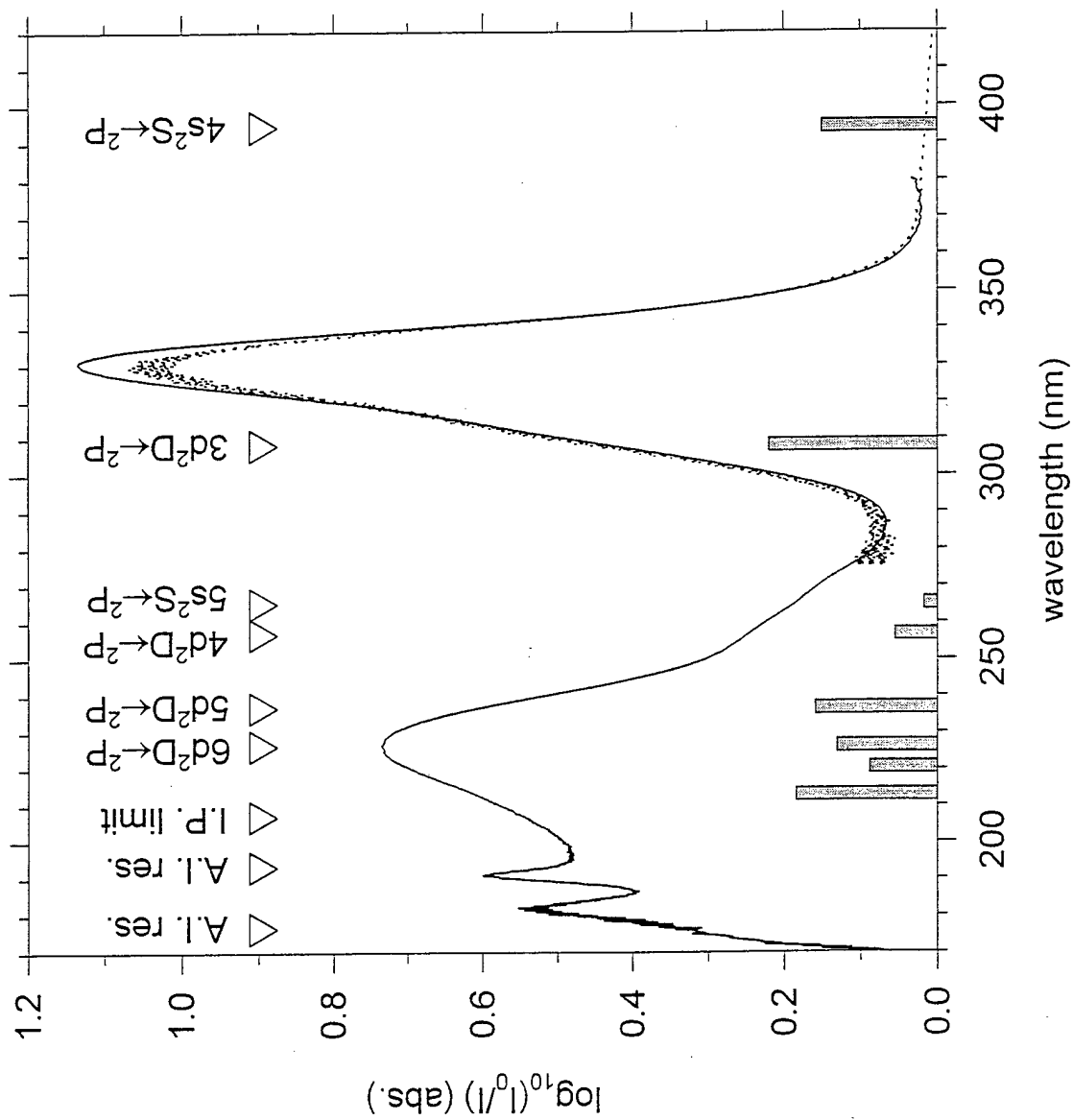


Department of Chemistry, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, 20 April 2001

# Recombination/reaction in $\text{Al}/\text{pH}_2$



# Assignment of Al/pH<sub>2</sub> UV Absorptions



# High Res. IR Spectroscopy in Solid $\text{pH}_2$

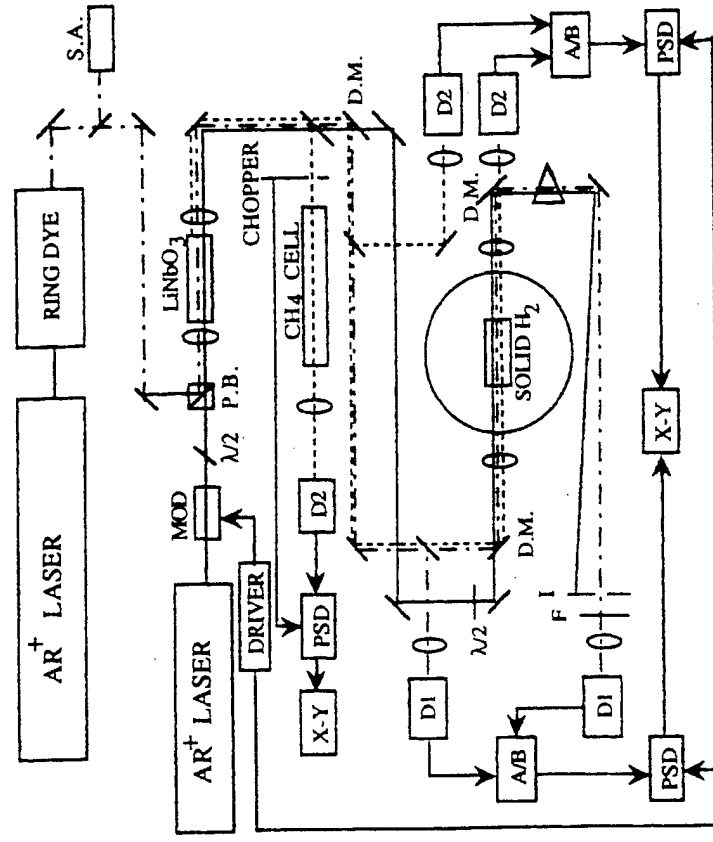


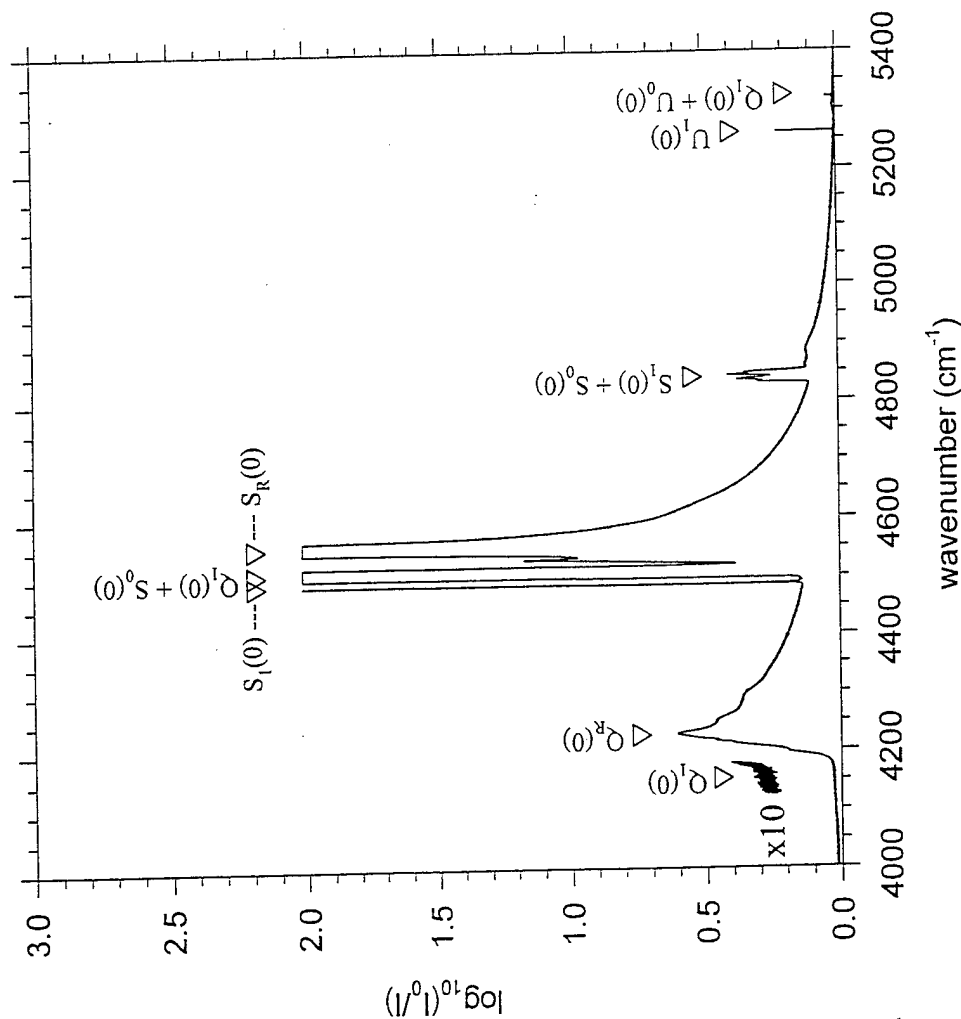
FIG. 1. Apparatus for the simultaneous spectroscopy of the infrared and Raman transitions. The nonlinearity of  $\text{LiNbO}_3$  is used for the former and that of solid  $\text{H}_2$  is used for the latter. D.M., dichroic mirror; S. A., spectrum analyzer; P. B., polarizer beamsplitter.

# IR Absorption of 6 mm Thick $\text{pH}_2$ Solid

Non-observation of the  $Q_1(0)$  transition demonstrates the absence of  $\text{oH}_2$  impurities, and that the microscopic structure is not amorphous or porous.

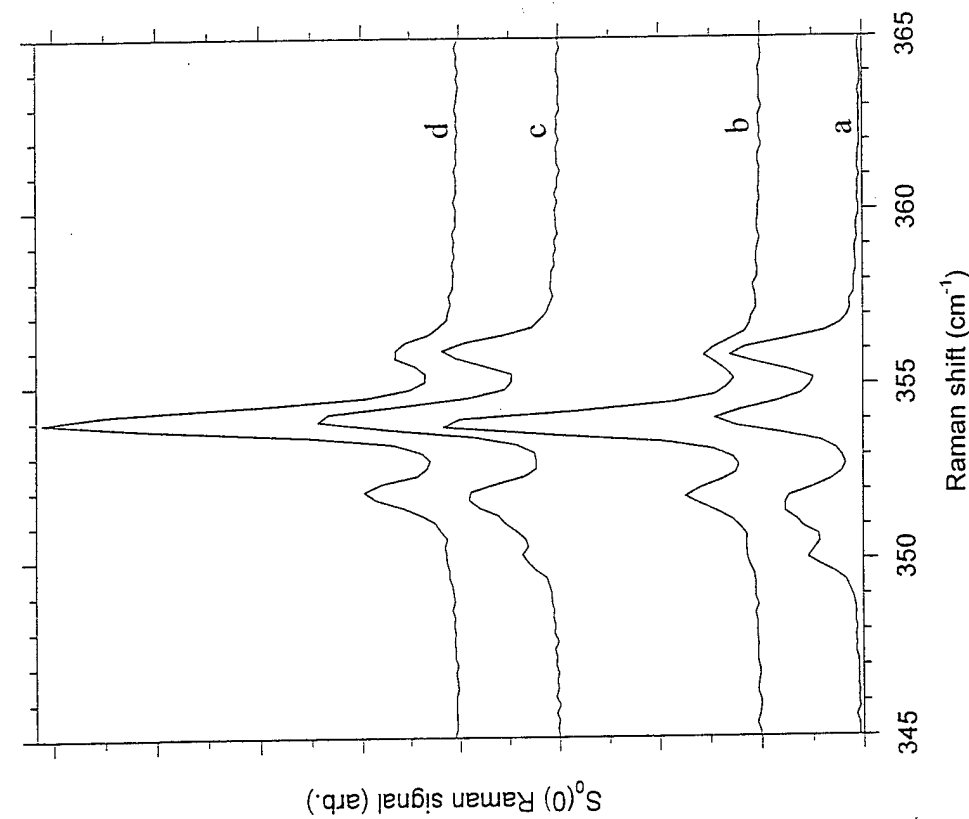
Observation of  $S_1(0)$  transition demonstrates the absence of inversion symmetry for some  $\text{H}_2$  molecular environments.

[van Kranendonk and Gush, Phys. Lett. 1, 22 (1962)]



M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam, J. Chem. Phys. 108, 4237 (1998).

# Raman Spectra of $\text{pH}_2$ Solids



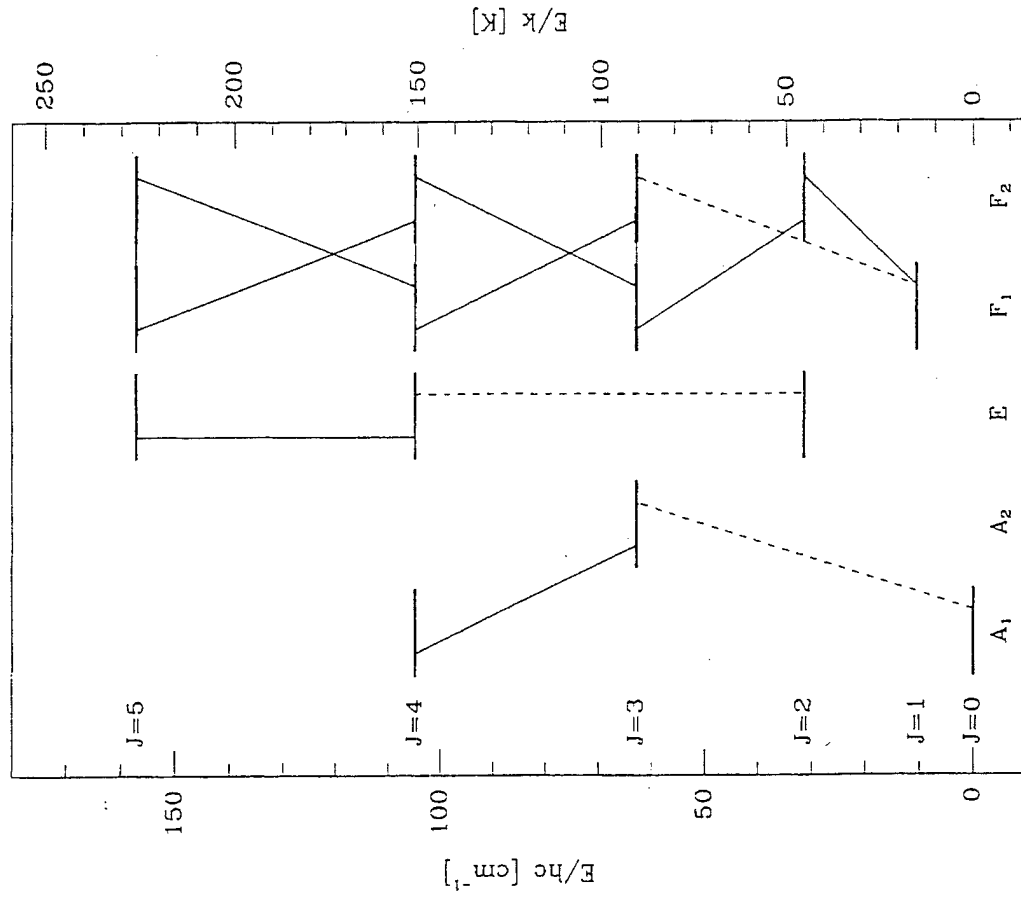
Mixed hcp/fcc as-deposited structure, anneals to hcp; compare with: [G.W. Collins, et al., Phys. Rev. B **53**, 102 (1996)].

(d) sample in (c) warmed to 4.5 K.  
(c) 4.5 mm sample as deposited at 3.3 K ( $\Phi = 290$  mmol/hr).

(b) sample in (a) warmed to 4.5 K.  
(a) 6 mm sample as deposited at 3.1 K ( $\Phi = 200$  mmol/hr).

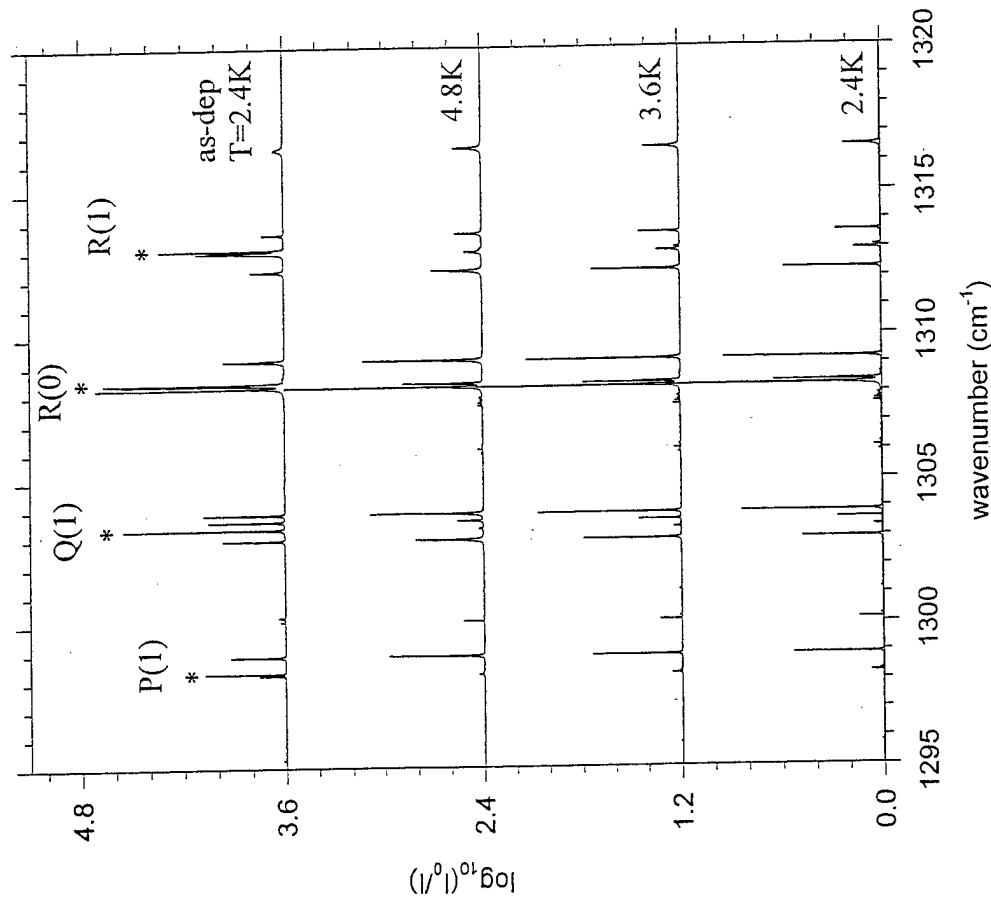
M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam,  
J. Chem. Phys. **108**, 4237 (1998).

# CH<sub>4</sub> Nuclear Spin Modifications



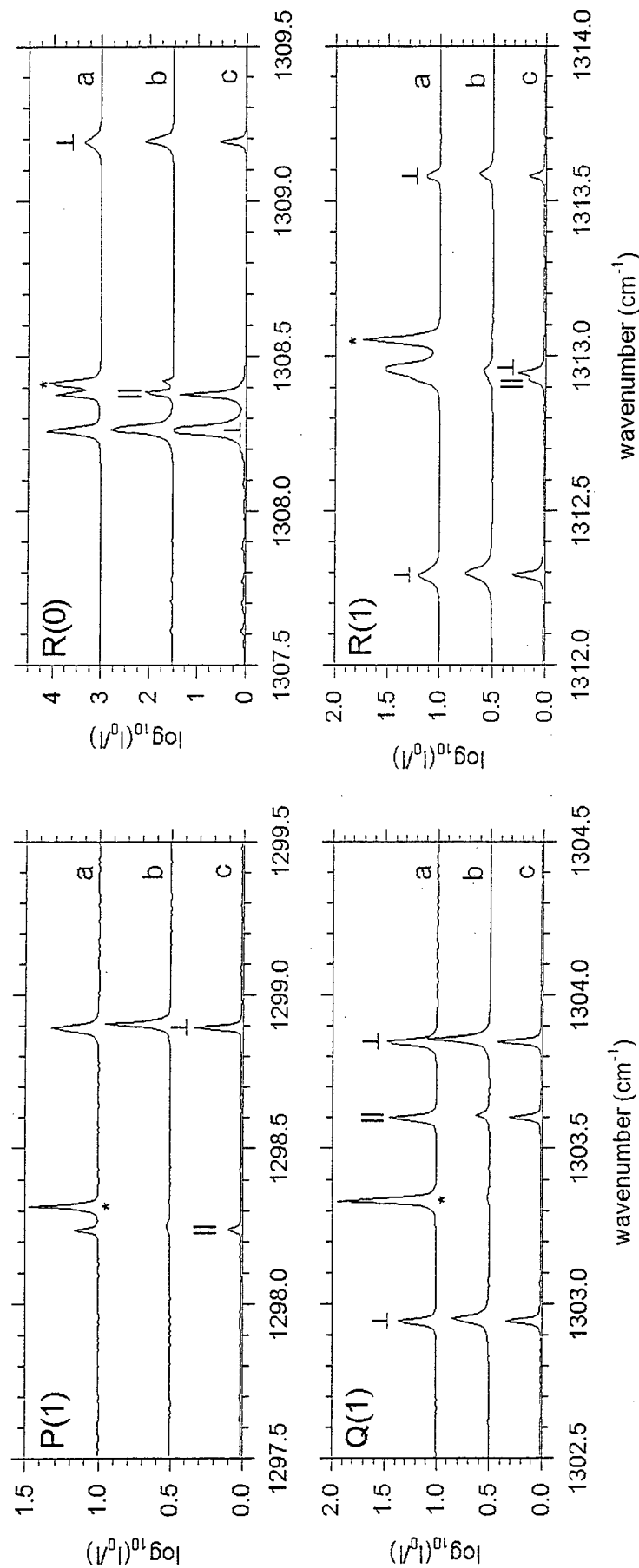
[M. Hepp, G. Winniewisser, and K.M.T. Yamada, J. Mol. Spectr. **164**, 311 (1994)]

# $\nu_4$ CH<sub>4</sub>/pH<sub>2</sub> IR Absorptions (res = 0.01 cm<sup>-1</sup>)



S. Tam, M.E. Fajardo, H. Katsuki, H. Hoshina, T. Wakabayashi, and T. Momose, J. Chem. Phys. **111**, 4191 (1999).

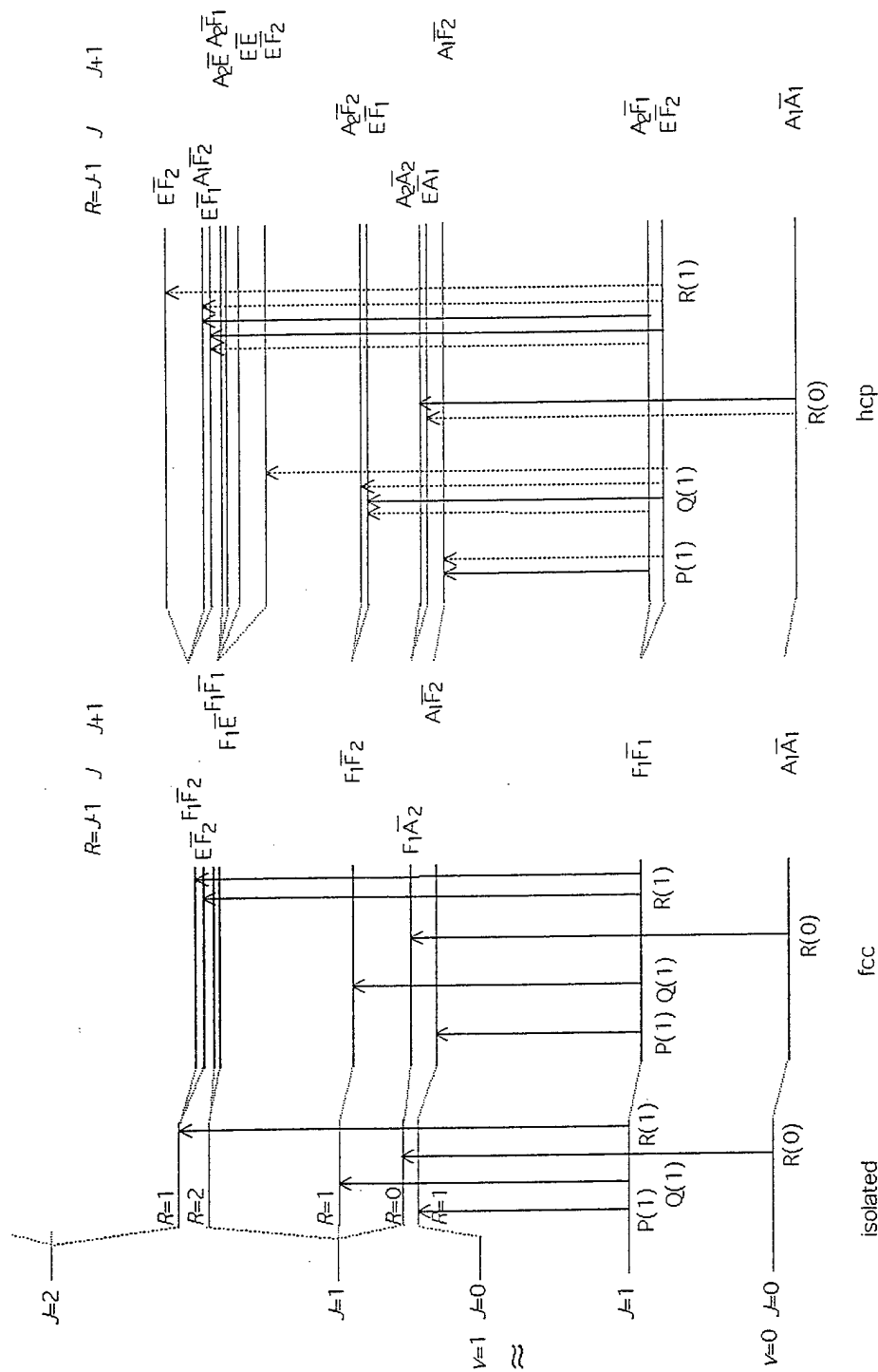
# $\nu_4$ $\text{CH}_4/\text{pH}_2$ IR Absorptions



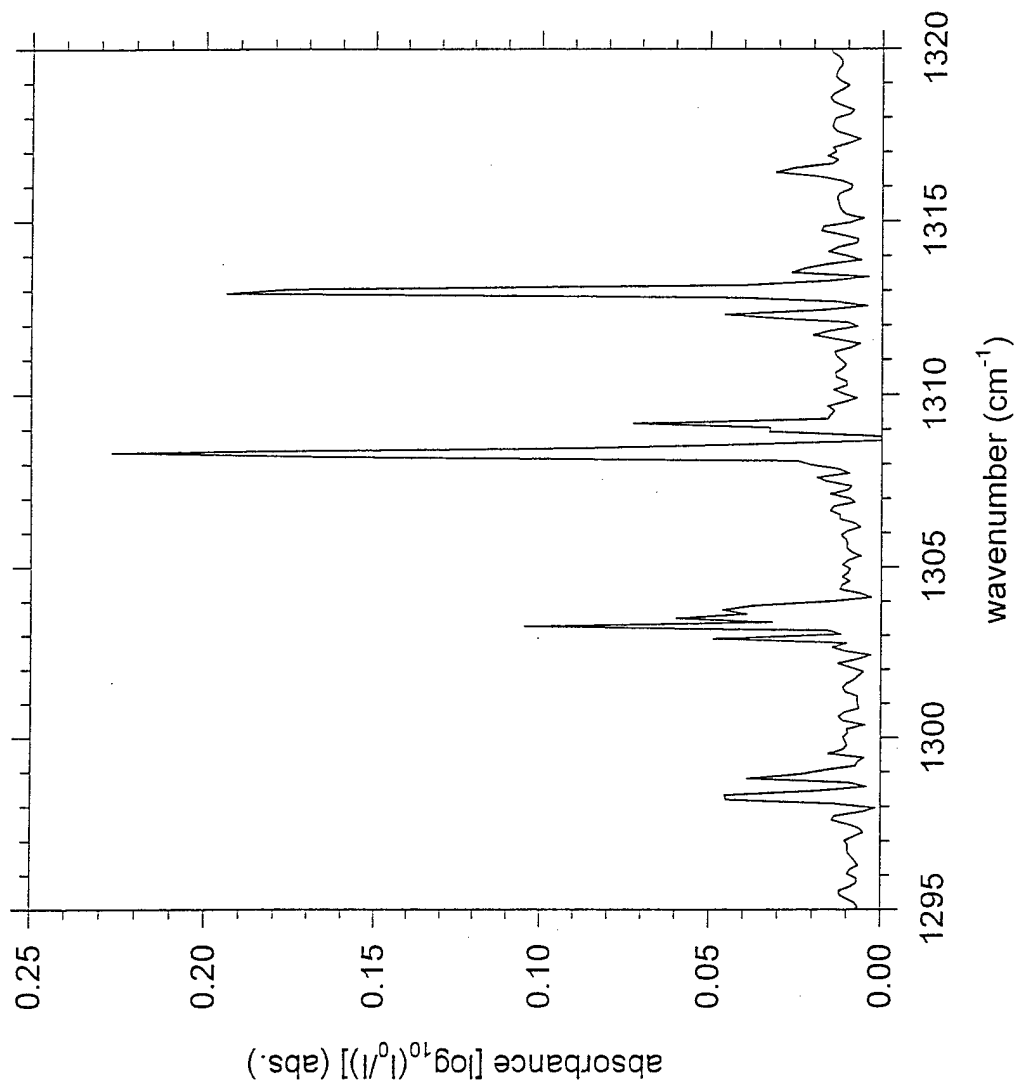
- (a) Rapid Vapor Deposited sample: as-deposited at 2.4 K
- (b) Rapid Vapor Deposited sample: annealed to 4.8 K
- (c) Enclosed Cell Condensed sample: cooled to 4.8 K



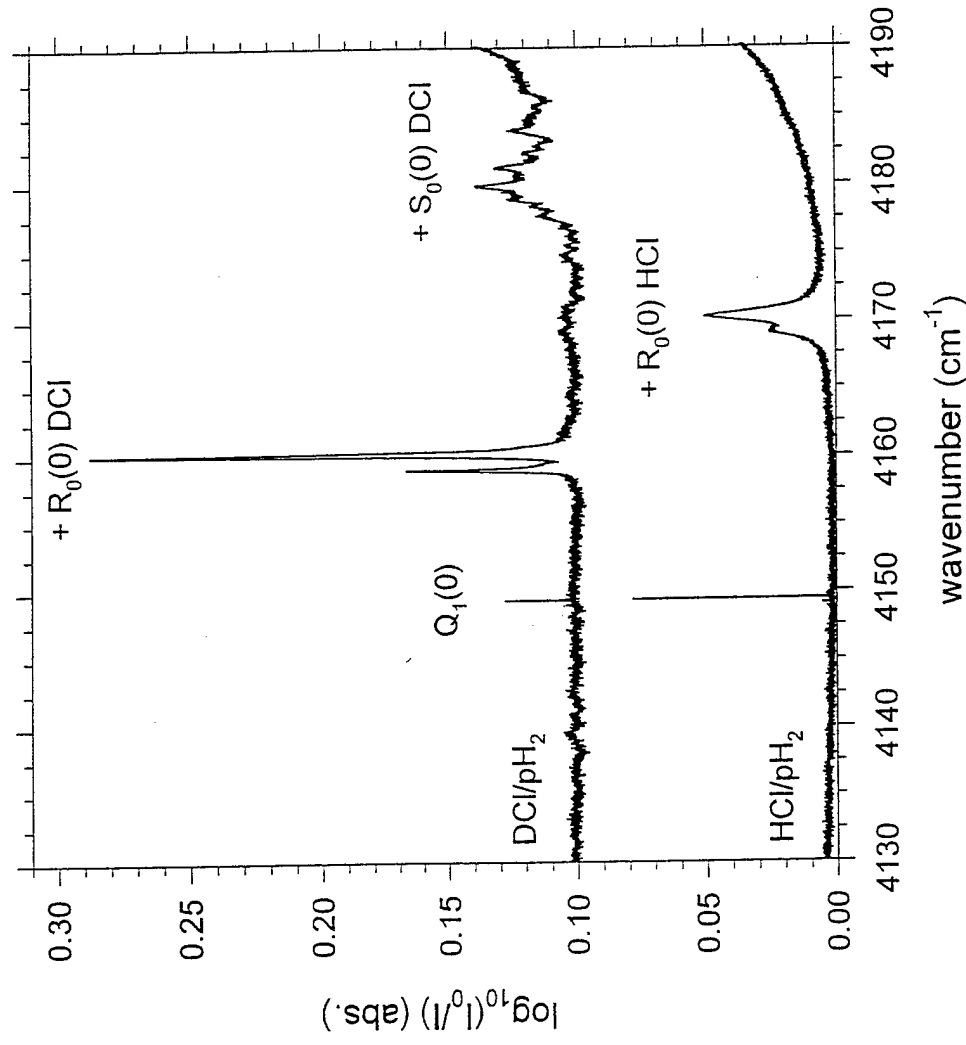
# $v_4$ $\text{CH}_4/\text{pH}_2$ Energy Levels



# $\text{CH}_4/\text{pH}_2$ from Laser Ablation of Graphite

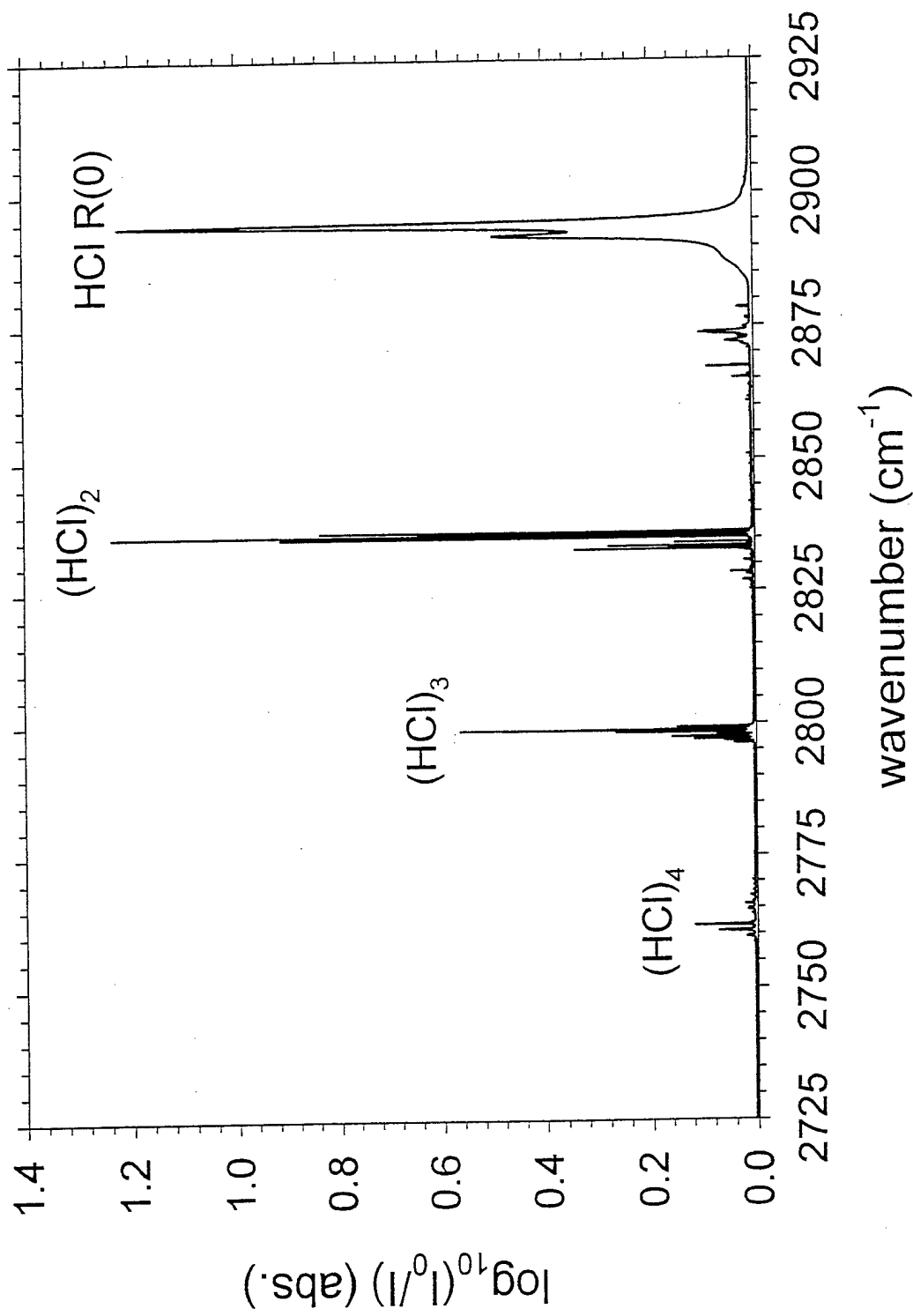


# Co-operative IR absorptions



analysis in collaboration with D.T. Anderson, U. Wyoming and R.J. Hinde, U. Tennessee, Knoxville.

# 88 PPM HCl/pH<sub>2</sub>



# Gas Phase $(\text{HCl})_2$

## High resolution, jet-cooled infrared spectroscopy of $(\text{HCl})_2$ : Analysis of $\nu_1$ and $\nu_2$ HCl stretching fundamentals, interconversion tunneling, and mode-specific predissociation lifetimes

Michael D. Schuder,<sup>a)</sup> Christopher M. Lovejoy,<sup>b)</sup> Robert Lascola,<sup>c)</sup> and David J. Nesbitt<sup>d)</sup>  
*Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, National Institute of Standards and Technology and  
 University of Colorado, and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Colorado,  
 Boulder, Colorado 80309*

(Received 5 April 1993; accepted 7 June 1993)

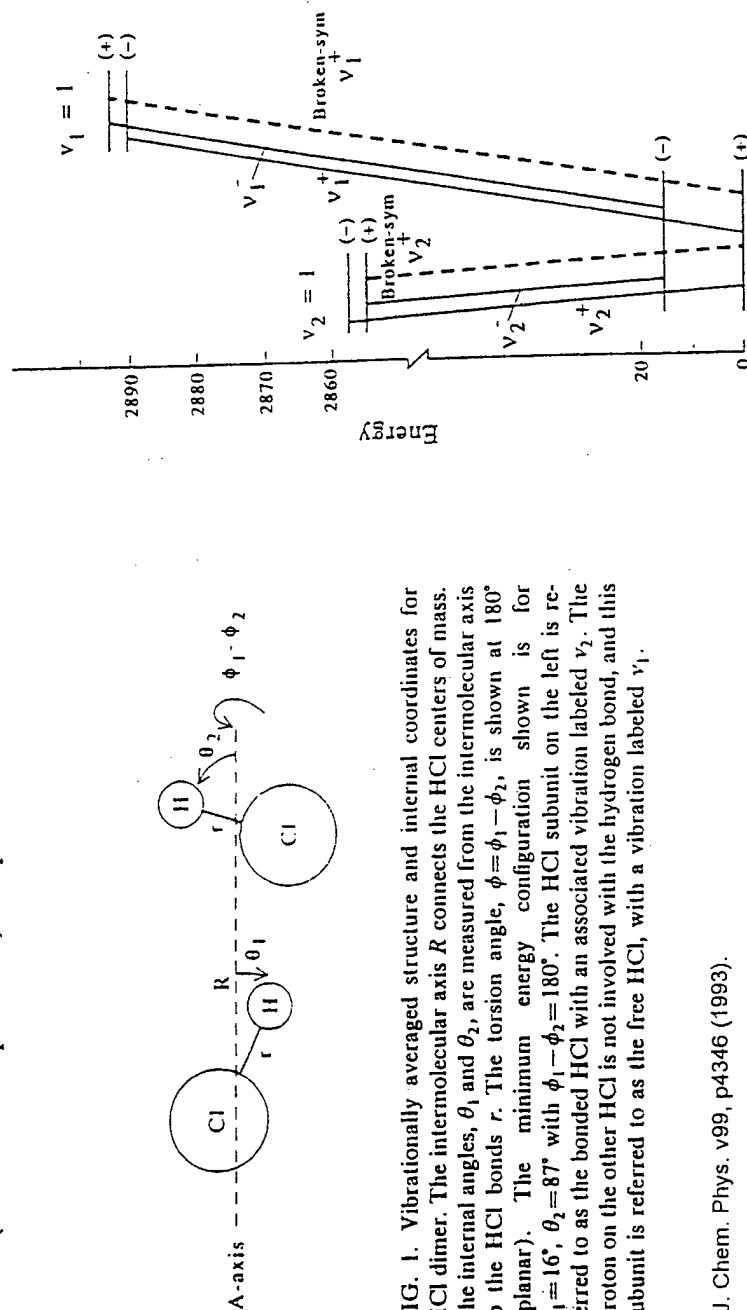
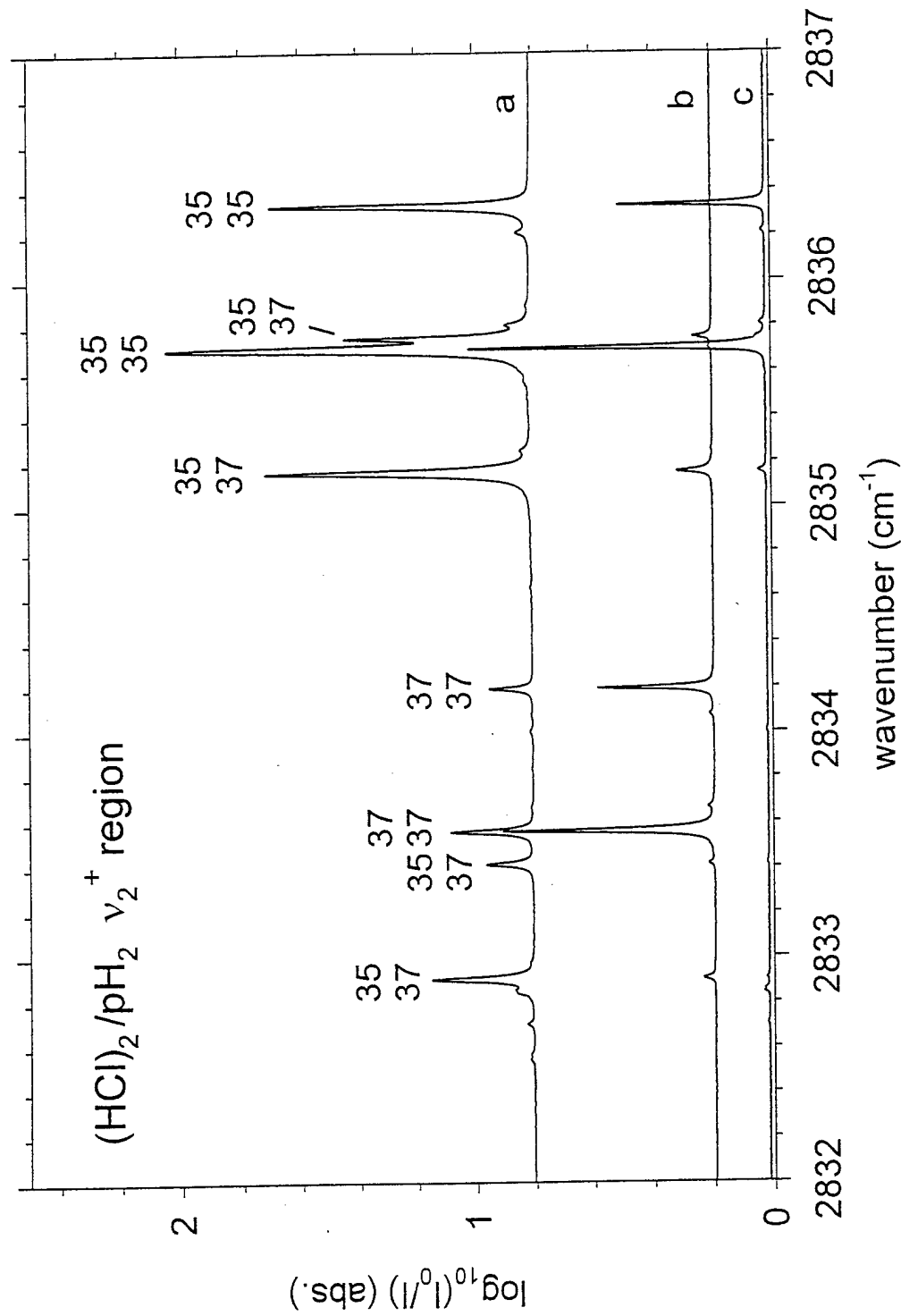


FIG. 1. Vibrationally averaged structure and internal coordinates for  $\text{HCl}$  dimer. The intermolecular axis  $R$  connects the  $\text{HCl}$  centers of mass. The internal angles,  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ , are measured from the  $\text{HCl}$  centers of mass to the  $\text{HCl}$  bonds  $r$ . The torsion angle,  $\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$ , is shown at  $180^\circ$  (planar). The minimum energy configuration shown is for  $\theta_1 = 16^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 87^\circ$  with  $\phi_1 - \phi_2 = 180^\circ$ . The  $\text{HCl}$  subunit on the left is referred to as the bonded  $\text{HCl}$  with an associated vibration labeled  $\nu_2$ . The proton on the other  $\text{HCl}$  is not involved with the hydrogen bond, and this subunit is referred to as the free  $\text{HCl}$ , with a vibration labeled  $\nu_1$ .

# $(\text{HCl})_2/\text{pH}_2$ isotopomers



analysis in collaboration with D.T. Anderson, U. Wyoming.

# HEDM Cryosolids Accomplishments

(a list of “things that’ll never work.”)

- \* Trapped Li, B, Na, Mg, Al atoms in solid hydrogen at  $T \approx 2$  K; attempts to demonstrate useful chemical energy storage still in progress
- \* Demonstrated production of gram-scale optically transparent  $pH_2$  solids by rapid vapor deposition.
- \* Demonstrated that vapor deposited  $pH_2$  solids are densest close-packed solids, NOT amorphous.
- \* Demonstrated suitability of vapor deposited  $pH_2$  solids as hosts for high resolution IR absorption spectroscopy of chemically interesting dopants; spectral assignments ongoing.
- \* Generalized phenomena of dopant-induced and co-operative IR absorptions to chemically interesting dopants.